

GAME CHANGERS: a newly introduced element or factor that changes an existing situation or activity in a significant way.¹

Week 1: From Fighting With to Fighting For: “What are you doing to strengthen and protect the most vulnerable parts of your marriage and family (exterior wall)?” - Pat Lessard

- o **Nehemiah 4:14** (ESV) ...Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and *fight for* your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes."

Week 2: From Comparison to Contentment: “I believe the secret to a happy marriage is *learning* to love an imperfect person.” - Michael Reyes

- o **Philippians 4:11** (ESV) ...for I have *learned* in whatever situation I am in to be content.

Week 3: From Criticizing to Celebrating: “When we’re critical of our spouse we’re taking their *faults (or differences!)* and put them under a microscope magnifying them into huge problems!” - Gabe Cleave

- o **Proverbs 18:2** (ESV) A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

Game Changers (Week 4): FROM RESISTING TO REPAIRING

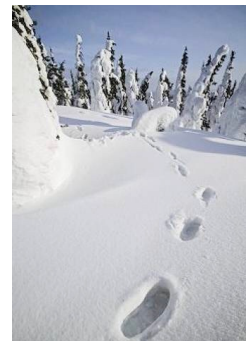
- o **1 Corinthians 11:1** (ESV) Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. [Following Footsteps]

When we resist _____ our wrongs...

- We make God out to be a liar.
- o **James 3:2** (ESV) For we all stumble in many ways...

When we resist _____ ourselves before others...

- We reject God’s hand of grace extended to us.
- o **James 4:6** (ESV) But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”



When we resist _____ on our convictions...

- We sell everyone short.
- o **James 1:22-24** (NLT) ²²But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. ²³For if you listen to the word and don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. ²⁴You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.

WHEN WE RESIST ADMITTING OUR WRONGS, HUMBLING OURSELVES BEFORE OTHERS, AND FOLLOWING THROUGH ON OUR CONVICTIONS, WE ARE RESISTING THE SPIRIT.

- See Acts 7:51

Game Changers: FROM RESISTING TO REPAIRING

When we repair damage by _____ well...

- We find freedom! (see also **John 8:31-32**)
- o **James 1:16-17** (ESV) ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- o **James 3:9** (ESV) With [our tongue] we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

When we repair damage by _____ relationship...

- **We find healing!** (see also **Matthew 5:23-24**)
- **James 5:16** (ESV) Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.
- **James 5:19-20** (ESV) ¹⁹My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

When we repair damage by _____ our commitments...

- **We change the future!**
- **James 3:17-18** (NLT) ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. ¹⁸And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.
- **James 1:25** (NLT) But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

PERSON APPLICATION AND/OR LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Us & God:

- What does it look like for you to repent well?
 - What does it look like for you to repent poorly?
 - What are you needing to repent from?
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Rebuilding Relationships:

- What are you needing to do in rebuilding trust, love, appreciation, etc.?
 - Name the sucker—what are you needing to address specifically and ask for forgiveness for?
 - What's in your heart—what are you needing to communicate? What are they needing to hear?
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Our Convictions:

- What have you been convicted about through this sermon series?
 - What have you done with your convictions? What are you still needing to do?
 - When and how are you going to do what you're needing to do?
 - What will the cost be if you don't follow through with your convictions?
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RESOURCES

Ongoing: Smart StepFamily class is being held Sundays at 9:45am at the PF Campus in Room 210.

March 10th: Fail-Proof Your Marriage class starts at 9:45am at the PF Campus in Room 211. (Register on our website.)

RightNow Media: Check out marriage studies on RightNow Media! Gain free access to RightNow Media by visiting the Resources page of our website (www.reallifeministries.com/coeur-d-alene/resources).

Life Group Curriculum Ideas: Ask your Community Pastor or visit www.reallifeministries.com/lgresources.

¹Definition of *game changer* taken from Merriam-Webster.com/dictionary/game%20changer

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